

Japanese dodder (Pictures taken by various County Agriculture Department Staff)



Japanese dodder (*Cuscuta japonica*) infestations Contra Costa, Sacramento, and Yuba counties.



An herbarium sample of Japanese dodder flowers from Yuba County. Note that the marks on the ruler represent millimeters.



Japanese dodder in Contra Costa. Note the vibrant yellow-green color and spaghetti-like stems.



JAPANESE DODDER:
Cuscuta japonica. Again, note the yellow-green color and thicker stem.

NATIVE DODDER for comparison: probably *Cuscuta californica*. Note the orange color and thread-like, thinner stems. Do not collect!



Japanese dodder attached to wild fennel. Japanese dodder is able to parasitize annuals, perennials, shrubs, and trees. It has not yet been seen to parasitize grasses or other monocots.



Japanese dodder removal in San Pablo, Contra Costa County. So far, control of Japanese dodder is through mechanical removal of the host, but because stem fragments act as propagules, only agency officials should remove Japanese dodder at the time. This will ensure correct vegetation disposal and prevent spread.
